ARUBA TODAY®

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PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

SUNDAY:	MONDAY:	TUESDAY:	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MARRYBELL MADURO	ANDERSON BAHAMON	JEAN PAUL	MAILLEYN ALVARADO	MARRYBELL MADURO	MAILLEYN ALVARADO	RICKY THOMAS
SINGER	SINGER	SAXOPHONIST	VIOLINIST	SINGER	VIOLINIST	GUITAR
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

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Republicans divided on identity, strategy for US midterms

Grapevine, United States **Conservatives** gathering in Texas this week showcased a Republican Party wrestling with its identity, as activists debated whether ideological purity or broader appeal offered the best path to victory in looming midterm election**s**.

In conversations across the Dallas-area Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), supporters framed the stakes not just in terms of who should prevail in the "primary" elections that pick candidates for November, but what kind of party Republicans should be.

It is an increasingly heated debate that has exposed tensions between hardline conservatives, pragmatists and those unsure of how to reconcile the two.

US Secretary of Health and Human Services speaks during the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC)

The discussion is playing out most visibly in high-profile contests such as the Texas Senate primary between incumbent John Cornyn and state attorney general Ken Paxton, a race that has become a proxy for the party's wider struggle.

For some, the answer is clear: the more conservative the candidate, the better.

"Oh, Paxton, definitely. All the way. Paxton, all the way, because he is a genuine conservative," said Petrina Bullard, 49, a realtor and community health worker from Dallas.

"Cornyn is not. He never has been. I honestly believe he's a Democrat parading as a Republican just to get voted in."

- Electability vs ideology -

Bullard said Republicans should prioritize candidates who are "really down in the trenches with the people" rather than establishment figures, arguing that ideological compromise risks diluting the party's core values.

"It definitely needs to be more conservative people rather than establishment people," she said, warning that Texas risked becoming a "purple state" with the Democrats growing as powerful as the Republicans.

Others, however, see that approach as a liability in competitive races.

Sean O'Brien, a 20-year-old from Connecticut who is studying at Alabama's Auburn University, said Republicans need to broaden their appeal -- even as he acknowledged tensions within that position.

"I will say that we need to pivot more towards the center," he said, arguing that President Donald Trump remains "a very divisive figure."

At the same time, O'Brien said he favored candidates aligned with Trump's "America First" agenda, reflecting the balancing act facing many younger conservatives.

He also warned that broader political dynamics -- including the war in Iran -- could weigh on Republican prospects.

"I see Democrats winning more seats...possibly taking the Senate," he said of November's midterms, while suggesting Republicans might still hold the House.

- A party unsure -

For others, the question of direction remains unresolved.

"If we want to try to get more moderate votes, we definitely should be less 'far right, conservative, Trump' and all of that," said Michal Szpak, 31, from Austin.

"But, at the same time, we might lose people who vote for that stuff. So it's a million-dollar question. And I really don't have an answer."

Szpak said voters' immediate concerns -- including rising prices -- could ultimately matter more in November than ideological positioning.

"People care more what's going to happen with Iran. People care how (high) the gas prices are," he said.

He warned that those economic pressures could sway the small bloc of undecided voters who often determine election outcomes.

"If we had the midterms tomorrow, I think we might lose the House," he said, citing rising costs and recent instability.

Despite the disagreements, some activists struck a more optimistic note about the party's ability to avoid damaging infighting.

Bullard said tensions in the Texas primary appeared to be easing, with Republicans increasingly focused on uniting ahead of November.❑

At 50, Apple confronts its next big challenge: AI

San Francisco, United States

Apple celebrates its 50th anniversary as artificial intelligence challenges the Silicon Valley legend to prove it can deliver yet another culture-changing innovation.

Steve Jobs, a driven marketing genius, and Steve Wozniak, who invented the Apple computer, revolutionized how people use technology in the internet age and built a company now worth more than $3.6 trillion.

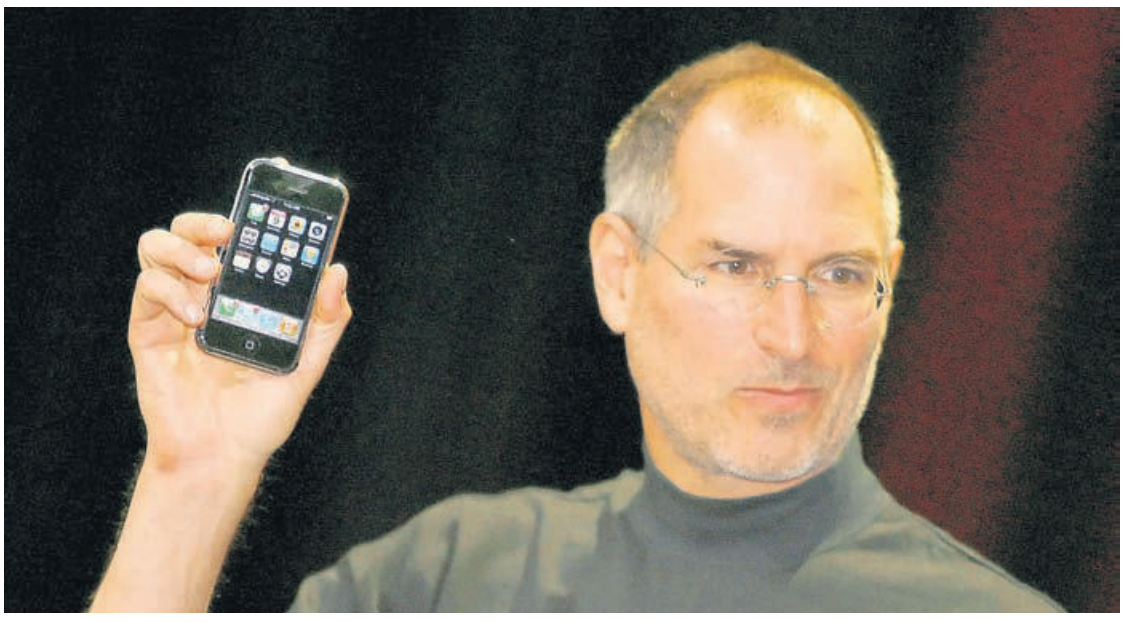
The two college dropouts changed the way people use computers, listen to music and communicate on the go, giving rise to lifestyles revolving around smartphone apps.

Apple's hit products — the Mac, the iPhone, the Apple Watch and the iPad — command a cult-like following, long after the company's humble beginnings on April 1, 1976 in Jobs' Cupertino, California garage.

Apple has sold more than 3.1 billion iPhones since the handsets debuted in 2007, generating about $2.3 trillion in revenue, according to Counterpoint Research.

For Counterpoint analyst Yang Wang, the iPhone is the most successful consumer electronics product ever, reshaping human communication while becoming "a global fashion and status symbol."

Before the iPhone, Apple



Apple chief executive Steve Jobs unveils a new mobile phone dubbed an "iPhone" at the Macworld Conference on January 9, 2007

shook up home computing with the 1984 Macintosh, whose icon-based interface and mouse made computing accessible beyond specialists -- and sparked a legendary rivalry between Jobs and Microsoft's Bill Gates.

"Apple was founded on the simple notion that technology should be personal, and that belief -- radical at the time -- changed everything," chief executive Tim Cook said in an anniversary letter posted online.

- 'Cult of Apple' -

Apple transformed the music market with the iPod and iTunes, made the smartphone a mass-market staple with the iPhone, and took tablets mainstream with the iPad.

The Apple Watch quickly seized the lead in the smartwatch market, despite debuting later than its rivals.

While not an inventor, Jobs -- who died in 2011 at age 56 -- was renowned for his uncompromising drive to marry technology with design to create products that were intuitive and hassle-free.

Apple marketed the Macintosh as the "computer for the rest of us," but it was the iPhone that fulfilled that promise, said David Pogue, author of the recently released "Apple: The First 50 Years."

The iPhone's dominance reshaped Apple's business model. With the premium smartphone market widely seen as saturated, Cook has increasingly turned to selling digital content and services to the company's vast existing base of users.

Central to that strategy is the App Store, which Apple made the sole gateway to software on its devices, taking a cut of transactions -- and thereby drawing accusations of monopoly abuse, regulatory scrutiny in Europe and court orders in the United States to open up its platform.

- 'China factor' -

No country has been more central to Apple's rise -- or more fraught for its future -- than China, with Cook cementing ties to the Asian superpower through regular appearances at local Apple stores and official visits.

Cook was the mastermind of the strategy that made China the primary manufacturing base for Apple devices, with the vast majority of iPhones assembled by contractor Foxconn and other suppliers in Chinese factories.

It is also one of Apple's largest consumer markets, generating tens of billions of dollars in annual revenue.

But the company faces mounting pressure on both fronts: trade tensions and tariffs have accelerated efforts to diversify manufacturing to India and Vietnam, while competition from domestic rivals such as Huawei has eaten into Apple's Chinese market share.

- 'AI challenge' -

A concern haunting investors is that Apple appears to be easing into generative AI while rivals Google, Microsoft and OpenAI race ahead.

A promised upgrade to its Siri digital assistant was delayed, in what analysts called a rare stumble for the company.

And rather than relying on its own engineers to overhaul Siri, Apple has turned to Google for AI capability.

But whether built in-house or outsourced, Apple's obsession with user privacy and its premium hardware could position it to drive widespread adoption of personalized AI -- and make it profitable, a goal that has proved elusive for much of the AI industry.❑

Epstein survivors sue US govt over revealed identities

Washington, United States

Survivors of late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein sued the US government and Google on Thursday over victims' identities being mistakenly revealed in a trove of documents published online by the Justice Department (DOJ).

The DOJ released more than three million files in January related to the investigation into the disgraced financier, including his links to high-profile figures.

But officials were left scrambling after names of victims -- who were supposed to be anonymized -- were left unredacted.

A woman flashes a sign to drivers in front of Trump Tower at an International Women's Day protest

The DOJ "outed approximately 100 survivors of the convicted sexual predator, publishing their private information and identifying them to the world," the plaintiffs said.

"Even after the government acknowledged the disclosure violated the rights of the survivors and withdrew the information, online entities like Google continuously republish it, refusing victim's pleas to take it down," they added.

Google continues to display victims' personal information in search results and AI-generated content, the case says.

Journalists at the New York Times also found dozens of naked photos in the files that included people's faces.

Epstein was convicted in 2008 of soliciting sex from girls as young as 14, but died in a New York jail cell in 2019 before he could be tried on sex trafficking charges.

"Survivors now face renewed trauma. Strangers call them, email them, threaten their physical safety, and accuse them of conspiring with Epstein when they are, in reality, Epstein's victims," the case filing said.

Plaintiffs claim that the government violated the Privacy Act of 1974, and that Google violated California laws on invasion of privacy, negligent infliction of emotional distress, and unlaw business practices.❑

Drones crash in Finland in suspected territorial violation: govt

Helsinki, Finland
Two unidentified drones crashed near Kouvola in southern Finland on Sunday in what the defence ministry called a "suspected territorial violation", with the prime minister saying they may have been stray Ukrainian drones.

"Drones have strayed into Finland's territory. We take this very seriously," Defence Minister Antti Hakkanen said in a statement, adding that security authorities had been sent to the scene.
Prime Minister Petteri Orpo told Finnish public broadcaster Yle it "is likely that these are Ukrainian drones, but this will be investigated and then announced later." Finland shares a 1,340-kilometre (830-mile) border with Russia.
Orpo noted that Ukraine has recently carried out attacks on Finland's neighbouring areas in Russia, and said Russian jamming of drone signals may have caused Ukrainian drones to go astray.
Hakkanen said the investigation was ongoing "and further details will be provided once the information has been verified."
According to the defence ministry, "a few low-flying slow objects were observed in Finnish airspace in the sea area and in south-eastern Finland on Sunday morning."
The air force sent up an F/A-18 Hornet fighter on an identification mission, it added.
"One drone has fallen to the ground north of Kouvola and another drone east of Kouvola. The police have cordoned off the areas for further investigation," the defence ministry said.❑

This photograph shows military drones displayed during the drill named Orion in Crucey military base

Over 300 Vietnamese arrested after Cambodia scam bust: police

Hanoi, Vietnam
More than 300 Vietnamese accused of internet fraud have been arrested in Vietnam after being repatriated from Cambodia this month where authorities dismantled a transnational cyberscam ring, police said Sunday.

Across Southeast Asia, organised criminal gangs have used casinos, hotels and fortified compounds as bases to carry out sophisticated online scams, defrauding people around the world, according to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime.

Cambodia hosts dozens of scam centres with tens of thousands of people perpetrating online scams -- some willingly and others trafficked -- in a multibillion-dollar illicit industry, rights monitors say.

The arrests of 343 people on internet fraud charges were made on Friday, said police in Vietnam's Dong Nai province, which borders Cambodia.

They were among nearly 400 Vietnamese handed over by Cambodian authorities on March 17 who "were part of a transnational online fraud ring recently dismantled in Cambodia", Dong Nai police said in a statement.

Vietnamese police said the immigration department said this month that 776 Vietnamese nationals "involved in online fraud cases" in the country were deported to Vietnam on March 17.

A policeman looks into an armoured vehicle at an exhibition of police equipment

accused had worked at a casino in the Cambodian city of Poipet, on the border with Thailand, and used social media and messaging apps including WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook to "defraud internet users, especially the elderly, frequent social media users, online traders and those with limited technological knowledge" in Vietnam.
Police did not say how much money the criminal group had obtained from victims.

In January, Vietnamese police took 35 people into custody for allegedly scamming victims out of $350 million, "using advanced technology for fraud and online gambling".

The month before 22 Vietnamese suspects in Cambodia were arrested on fraud charges in a joint operation between the two countries.

Police in Vietnam said last year that since 2020, Vietnamese victims have lost $1.5 billion in more than 24,000 cases of internet fraud.

From hubs across Southeast Asia, scammers lure internet users into fake romantic relationships and cryptocurrency investments, stealing tens of billions of dollars annually from victims around the world.❑

Nepal court extends ex-PM detention in protest crackdown case

Police personnel clash with supporters of Nepal's former prime minister Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli

Supporters protest against the arrest of Nepali former prime minister KP Sharma Oli

Kathmandu, Nepal

A Nepal court on Sunday extended by five days the detention of former prime minister KP Sharma Oli and his home minister after their arrest over alleged involvement in a deadly crackdown on the 2025 protests that ousted him.

Oli, 74, and ex-home minister Ramesh Lekhak were arrested in pre-dawn raids on Saturday, a day after Prime Minister Balendra Shah was sworn in following the first elections since the September uprising.

They were arrested over their alleged involvement in the protest crackdown that killed at least 76 people, though neither man has been charged, and both deny responsibility for the violence.

"The court has decided to permit five days extension," Kathmandu District Court information officer Deepak Kumar Shrestha told AFP.

Shrestha noted that the court has also said the former prime minister should get the medical care he requires.

Oli appeared in court via video-link from a hospital on Sunday, where he was admitted on Saturday following a procedural check-up.

Police said Oli has heart and kidney issues. AFP reporters saw him being taken to a hospital on Saturday after his arrest, surrounded by a heavy police guard.

The Supreme Court is due on Monday to consider a petition for Oli and Lekhak's release, court spokesman Arjun Prasad Koirala said.

The arrests of Oli and Lekhak came after an inquiry commission recommended that the four-time ex-prime minister and other officials be prosecuted for failing to stop security forces from firing on demonstrators.

The report says that statements given to the commission by Oli and Lekhak suggesting they did not know about the violence were part of a bid to shift responsibility and amounted to "criminal negligence".

It recommends that they be investigated under a law that deals with death caused by recklessness.

Ex-energy minister Deepak Khadka was also detained on Sunday "in a case relating to money laundering", Central Investigation Bureau spokesman Shiva Kumar Shrestha said.

- 'Beginning of justice' -

The unrest in early September began over a brief social media ban, but tapped into longstanding fury over economic hardship.

It spread nationwide the following day as parliament and government offices were set ablaze, resulting in the collapse of Oli's government.

Oli's CPN-UML Marxist party has called the arrests "a revengeful act" and has called for protests.

Police barricaded roads on Sunday and used batons to drive back more than 100 of Oli's supporters near the court in the capital Kathmandu, an AFP photographer saw.

Supporters said they had submitted a letter demanding his release.

"The prime minister has made a hasty decision that could push the country towards confrontation," said Tejila Thapa, 44, a supporter of Oli.

"This is a wrong decision, and it must be corrected."

Home Minister Sudan Gurung has said Oli's and Lekhak's arrests were "not revenge against anyone, just the beginning of justice".

Shah, a 35-year-old rapper-turned-politician, and his Rastriya Swatantra Party swept to power on a platform of youth-driven political change.

He challenged and defeated Oli in his own constituency.

Shah's government has unveiled an ambitious 100-point reform agenda including investigations into the assets of politicians and high-ranking officials.

Before the uprising, Nepal ranked 107th out of 180 countries on Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index.

The World Bank says a "staggering" 82 percent of Nepal's workforce is in informal employment, with GDP per capita at just $1,447 in 2024.❑

UK police question suspect after car hits pedestrians in English city

London, United Kingdom

British police were on Sunday questioning a 36-year-old man arrested for attempted murder after a car ploughed into people on a street in a central English city, injuring seven of them.

Police in Derby, about 40 miles (64 kilometres) north of Birmingham, said counter-terrorism officers were supporting the probe but they had not yet determined a motive for the incident there late Saturday.

In an update Sunday, Chief Superintendent Emma Aldred told reporters investigators believe the "horrific incident" was "isolated" and that there was "no wider risk to the public".

Police forensic officers take away full evidence bags on Friar Gate in central Derby, central England

"Officers were on scene just seconds after a car collided with pedestrians who were simply enjoying a night out in Derby," she said.

"While none of those injured in the incident have suffered life-threatening physical injuries, the impact on them, I am sure, is just beginning to be felt."

Aldred noted the involvement of counter-terror officers was "common practice for an incident of this nature" as police probe the circumstances and a possible motive.

"I would like to clarify that this does not mean the incident is currently being treated as terrorism," she added.

The 36-year-old in custody is originally from India but is a Derby resident who has lived in the UK "for a number of years," according to Aldred.

UK police forces have started to release such details in some high-profile cases, after a 2024 Southport mass stabbing targeting children was initially falsely blamed on a purported immigrant.

Misinformation online was viewed as helping to fuel anti-immigration riots that subsequently swept the country.

- Seven injured -

The suspect in the Derby incident was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder, causing serious injury through dangerous driving, inflicting grievous bodily harm with intent, and dangerous driving.❑

War in the Middle East: latest developments

Here are the latest developments in the Middle East war:

- Pakistan talks -

Foreign ministers from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Turkey started talks on the war, with Islamabad acting as a go-between between the United States and Iran.

The four-way meeting between the Muslim nations was convened "to review the evolving regional situation and discuss issues of mutual interest", Pakistan's foreign ministry said in a brief statement.

- US 'planning ground attack' -

Iran's parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said the United States was "secretly planning a ground attack" despite publicly engaging in diplomatic efforts on ending the war.

The Washington Post reported Saturday that the US is preparing for weeks-long ground operations in Iran, potentially including raids on Kharg Island and coastal sites near the Strait of Hormuz. It said US President Donald Trump has yet to approve any deployment.

- Iran threatens US aircraft carrier -

Iran's navy chief Shahram Irani said the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier would be targeted by the Islamic republic if it comes within range.

- Journalists' funeral -

Lebanon held a funeral for three journalists killed by an Israeli strike the previous day in the south of the country.

The Israeli military said it carried out the attack to assassinate Ali Shoeib, a veteran correspondent for Hezbollah's Al Manar TV, whom it accused, without providing evidence, of working as a Hezbollah operative.

France's foreign minister, Jean-Noel Barrot, told broadcaster France 3: "If it is indeed confirmed that the journalists in question were deliberately targeted by the Israeli army, then this is extremely serious and a blatant violation of international law."

A Muslim cleric (L) stands amid Hezbollah flags on March 29, 2026, in the Choueifat area on the outskirts of Beirut during the funeral of journalists killed the previous day in an Israeli strike in south Lebanon. (by IBRAHIM AMRO / AFP)

First responders and security forces work at the site of a projectile strike that damaged a house in Eshtaol, near Beit Shemesh in central Israel, on March 28, 2026. (by AHMAD GHARABLI / AFP)

- Qatari TV office hit -

Qatari news channel Al Araby said an Israeli missile hit a Tehran building housing its office in Tehran, causing damage and, according to the Iranian Red Crescent, wounding 10 people.

In a statement to AFP, the channel condemned that attack "on a civilian commercial building and affirms that endangering journalists or considering them targets runs counter to international law".

- Bahrain shipping curfew -

Bahrain ordered a maritime curfew, from 6:00 pm until 4:00 am local time, "to safeguard the safety of seafarers and sea-goers and to enhance the security of Bahrain's coastlines amid the blatant Iranian aggression".

- Latin Patriarch stopped -

Israeli police stopped the Vatican's top man in the Holy Land, Jerusalem's Latin Patriarch Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, from celebrating Palm Sunday in the city's Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

The action drew condemnation from Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, who called it "an offence not only to the faithful but to any community that respects religious freedom".

- Attacks on Iran port -

US-Israeli strikes hit the Iranian port city of Bandar Khamir near the strategic Strait of Hormuz, killing five people, Iranian state media reported. The IRNA news agency said four people were wounded.

AFP was not able to verify the toll or the site of the strike.

A series of loud explosions was also heard across the Iranian capital. The blasts were heard in northern Tehran and smoke was seen rising from impacted areas.

- Iran targets aluminium plants -

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said they launched missile and drone strikes on aluminium plants in Bahrain and the UAE over the weekend. In a statement carried by Iranian state broadcaster IRIB, the Guards said they hit an aluminium facility in the UAE and Aluminium Bahrain's main plant, calling both sites "industries affiliated with and connected to the US military and aerospace sectors in the region".

- Fifth Israeli soldier killed -

The Israeli army announced the death in combat of a soldier in south Lebanon, the fifth in Lebanon since Hezbollah launched new rocket attacks on Israel on March 2 and Israel responded with an air and land campaign.

- Kuwait targeted -

Kuwait's military said it responded to "hostile missile and drone" threats.

"The general staff of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces confirms that any explosions that may be heard are the result of air defense systems intercepting hostile targets," it posted on social media.

- Iran threatens US universities -

The Revolutionary Guards threatened US universities in the Middle East, while saying US-Israeli strikes had destroyed two Iranian universities.

The Guards demanded a US condemnation of the bombing of universities by noon (0830 GMT) Monday.

- Two tankers pass Hormuz -

Two more Indian-flagged tankers carrying LPG passed through the Strait of Hormuz -- the chokepoint in the Gulf that Iran has closed to most maritime traffic -- according to India's shipping ministry.

Two LPG carriers, BW TYR and BW ELM, carrying a combined LPG cargo of about 94,000 tonnes were sailing towards India's coast, the ministry said in a statement.❑

Today is going to be a good day

(Oranjestad)—Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center.

For more information, visit the website www.acf.aw

The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light.

Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout—as it might get a little windy and rough—you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. It's fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. ❑

Ayo & Casibari: Aruba's famous rock formations

(Oranjestad)—The Ayo and Casibari Rock Formations are known locally as one of the crucial sites to have in your "off-road" trip itinerary. These naturally formed rock formations as just one of the few places on the island that hold a rich history of our culture and of our ancestors.

Ayo

The Ayo Rock Formation is located in the northern part of the island, right on the road that leads you to the Black Stone Beach, and close to the Natural Bridge. The Ayo is a fenced terrain that consists of several giant boulders, resting neatly on top of or side by side each other, adding gorgeous natural architecture to the surrounding "mondi"*. This is also one of the few sites to contain prehistoric markings of our indigenous ancestors. The Ayo Rock formation contains stairs that lead you to the top of the highest boulder, offering a breath-taking view of the Aruban backyard. The Ayo is usually quiet, as it is situated farther away from the busier parts of the island. However, this is just another charm of the site: the quiet area and the refreshing breeze offer a sense of comfort and peace.

Casibari

Probably the busier rock formation site, the Casibari is situated more in the center of the island, much closer—and more accessible—to the general public. Just like Ayo, Casibari is a fenced area containing several boulders that lay on top or lean on each other. The best aspect of the Casibari Rock Formation is the accompanying view when you climb up the top of the round, flat bolder. For this position, you can see the majority of the island and the ocean in the south.

Both sites are open free to the public, 24 hours a day. However, unless you are taking a trip with a professional tour guide, there are no guides at the sites to help you climb the rock. So, do be careful when trudging on the boulders, and make sure to befriend any roaming goats you see along the way!

*Mondi: what we call our Aruban wilderness. We don't have forests, or deserts, but we do have mondi!❑

Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.

Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of Aruba; the stones that cover the beach and the shape of it has been crafted for thousands of years through volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island. Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.

This beach forms part of the Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it is not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family!❑

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Explore Aruba!

(ORANJESTAD)—Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

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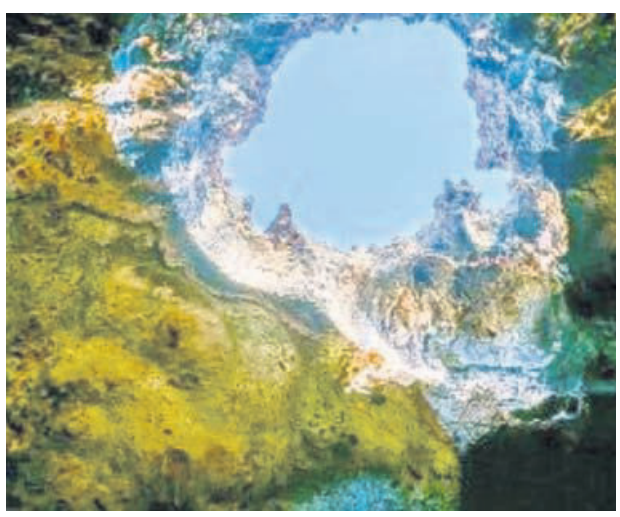
The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In total, the park consists of 34 square kilometers of protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website www.acf.aw

Natural Bridge

One of Aruba's favorite tourist attractions is the Natural Bridge. For thousands of years, pounding waves and strong winds have slowly chiseled away the limestone cliffs along Aruba's north coast to create several natural bridges. The largest of these bridges used to be the famous Natural Bridge. The bridge was a formation of coral limestone cut out by years of pounding surf, and was one of the largest of these types of spans in the world. It stood some 23 feet (7 meters) above sea level and spans more than 100 feet (30 meters). Unfortunately the bridge collapsed on September 2, 2005. Despite this, it is still the most photographed natural bridge and it remains a popular tourist attraction in Aruba, with the adjacent and intact Baby Bridge also meriting a visit. The Natural Bridge is the perfect stop while touring Aruba. There is no admission fee or set hours for visiting. Quench your thirst with refreshing beverages & refuel your tank with local snacks.



The Lourdes Grotto

Named in commemoration of the famous French religious landmark, was created under the guidance of a priest named "Erkamp" and parishioners in the year 1958. The grotto, a shrine built into the rocks is located in Seroe Preto, just off the main road to San Nicolas. A statue of the Virgin Mary, weighing 700 kilos, was hoisted into place in the grotto. Every year, on February 11 (feast of Lady of Lourdes), a procession leaves from the St. Theresita church in San Nicolas to the grotto, where a mass is performed. The grotto is located road-side and can be visited daily. Just make sure you park safely in the event you wish to stop for pictures at this location.❑

Feeling parched? Grab refreshment by the side of the road!

(Oranjestad)—Touring the island in the blistering heat can leave one feeling rather thirsty and looking to cool off. Luckily there are a few stands along the roads of Aruba that can offer you just what you need: a nice, refreshing beverage!

These "coconut stands" can be found at several locations on the island, where you can cool off with delicious smoothies, drinks, snacks, and of course, fresh coconuts! Perfect during family outings around the island, these stands can be found in the following locations:

- Near the red Anchor in San Nicolas
- On the Linear Park in Oranjestad (in front of airport runway)
- At the California Light House hill
- Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruin
- Bushiribana Beach

A brief history of the California Light House

(Oranjestad)—At the furthest western point of the island, there lies the tallest structure on the island: The California Light House. Standing on top of a limestone cliff, this lighthouse oversees the entire island, offering one of few best views of the island and the surrounding sea. It is also one of the few monuments that hold a rich history.

The lighthouse was constructed in between 1914-1916, and its first keeper was a young trained lighthouse keeper from Curacao names Jacob Jacobs. Mr. Frederico Fingal was the last man to have occupied this position until 1962. Though his son, Mr. Romulo Fingal did not continue in his father's footsteps, he does have a special connection to the lighthouse. He sat down with our reporter and shared a bit of its history.

As Mr. Fingal explains, "In 1915, cargo donkeys were hired from Figaroa di Noord to help build the Lighthouse at Westpunt. The donkeys had to walk along the beach all the way to Westpunt carrying the cargo, poles, cement, and all these things. At that time, it was a difficult task until Aruba got its first truck.

These things reflect how people could have accomplished this tremendous job with so little." Mr. Fingal said, "At that time, it wasn't a place for people to work. It was very challenging because it was full of goats and donkeys, and it was very isolated. There were no hotels or roads to get there. There was only a donkey trail. Those were the only means of transportation."

Mr. Fingal continues, "In 1939, I was born in the lighthouse, and my father was the last lighthouse keeper until he retired in 1962. After that, they removed the power cables all the way to the top. According to the story, we couldn't have the light ourselves because they dismantled it, and after many years, I heard that it is in a train museum in San Nicolas, where we found this very special lens that, when the light shines through it, it reaches 30 kilometers out to sea." Mr. Fingal told our reporter.

The lighthouse has a long and very interesting history. The reason why the lighthouse was built, according to Mr. Fingal, dates back to the day when the cargo ship S.S. California sank because of the lack of light. In 1913, Aruba made a request to Curacao to build a Lighthouse at Westpunt, and the governor of Curacao responded to Aruba to come back in 1915 with a well-detailed plan. "During the First World War from 1914 to 1918, they had to wait for the light to be transported to Aruba because it was manufactured in France. At that time, there was no electricity, and the light was very interesting because it rotated with a kerosene lamp that planes used; clean kerosene," Mr. Fingal said.

Mr. Fingal discovered something very interesting about the lighthouse after much research was documented in his book 'History of the Lighthouse at Westpunt.' He found many details: "I found out that the height of the lighthouse was due to the absence of electricity. There was also the presence of coral. There is a long steel cable from where the light is, and under the light, at the highest point, there is a hanging weight, a sort of pendulum that swings like that, with a weight that measures about 1 meter by 30 centimeters wide, which is a block of solid iron attached to a cable. When you release it upwards, it comes down, and the weight that comes down pulls it up, gradually. And while it comes down, the same weight that is descending causes many small wheels to turn in the opposite direction. The Lighthouse rotates from 6 pm in the evening, when the sun sets, until 6 am in the morning. During the entire night, the light shines on the lantern, it goes down 24 meters, and the Lighthouse is 30 meters high. It is designed not to collapse," Mr. Fingal explains.

Mr. Fingal further explains that in one night, the lighthouse rotates 4,320 times and consumes one gallon of kerosene for the whole operation. "At that time, the kerosene was supplied from the Lago refinery. Every day it was brought down, and to start the light again, they had to lift the weight up, so our job as children was to crank it and raise the weight back up in the evening when the light stuck, they would take it down again, and the light stayed down. That's how it worked for a very long time," Mr. Fingal explains.

Thanks to the Monument Fund Aruba, which worked hard and is currently in charge of the Lighthouse, Mr. Fingal is very happy with its preservation, along with all the renovations that have taken place. He hopes that the story of the lighthouse will continue to live on for future generations.❑

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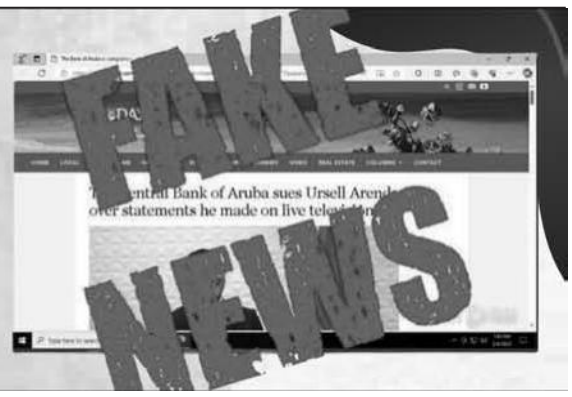


Snakes of Aruba

Arikok National Park is home to various unique plant and animal species such as Aruba's rare endemic rattlesnake Crotalus unicolor). This rattlesnake is locally known as the 'Cascabel'. But Aruba has two more snake species living on the island: the Santanero and the Boa.

Cascabel (Crotalus unicolor)
The small Cascabel or Aruba Island Rattlesnake averages 70 cm in length. The body color is often uniform gray or light brown. There may be a faint pattern of diamond shaped markings on the back. This pattern is most noticeable on younger snakes. The most distinctive feature of this snake is the rattle at the end of its tail which makes a buzzing sound when the snake is alarmed. Cascabels are shy and not aggressive, but their venom can be dangerous to humans. It is best to leave this snake alone. Do not attempt to catch or kill it.

Cascabels hunt by waiting under bushes and fruiting trees to catch passing lizards, mice, rats, small rabbits, and an occasional bird. This is often considered to be one of the rarest rattlesnakes in the world. The range of the Cascabel is restricted to the rugged and mountainous areas of the island mostly within Arikok National Park. The Arikok National Park was designated in the early 1980s to include most of the rattlesnake's population, providing a safe refuge in which the snake can be protected and monitored. The government has also implemented outreach and education initiatives to change local perception of the snake and highlight its ecological and economic importance – it is now being promoted as a national symbol.

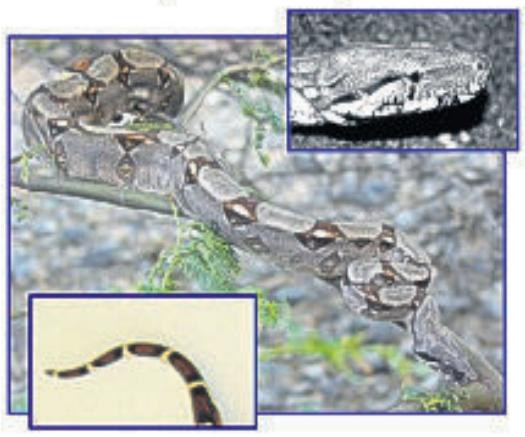
Arikok's partnership with the Toledo zoo has safeguarded the rattlesnake ex-situ and led to a number of research projects collecting critical data on the Cascabel's abundance, life history and habitat requirement to help guide future conservation efforts.

Santanero
The slender Santanero or Aruban Cat-eyed Snake is typically less than 50 cm long. This snake is recognizable by the large scales on the top of its head and by its pattern of dark brown bands alternating with light brown bands. The belly is plain white or cream colored without any markings. This snake is shy and not aggressive. However, it has enlarged teeth at the back of its mouth and mild venom which is not dangerous to humans. However, the venom can paralyze small lizards and frogs. Santaneros are most active at night when they search for food. During the day, they hide under rocks or leaves. They frequently climb trees and cactus. Santaneros eat toads, frogs, insects, and lizards. You may find Santaneros near dams during periods of rainy weather or crossing roads at night. This snake is found island wide. A Santanero in your garden will keep away the unwanted insects. If you encounter a Santanero around your garden, please do not harm this species.

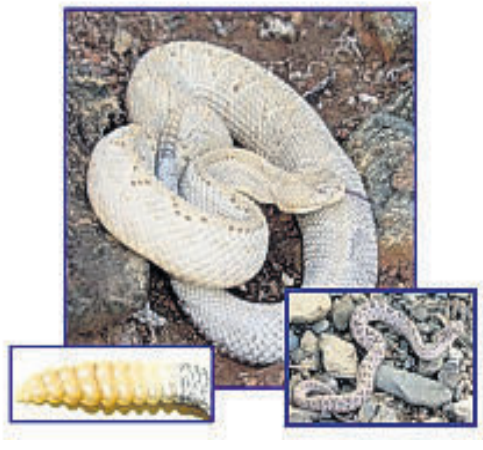
Boa (Boa constrictor)
Boas are Aruba's largest snakes. The longest Boa found on the island was slightly less than 3 m. Newborn Boas average 35 cm. Boas are not venomous. The most distinctive feature of a Boa is its pattern of dark brown and tan blotches which become red toward the tail. The belly in white or cream colored with numerous black spots. Boas are excellent climbers and may be found in trees and cactus. Boas also hide in the leaves under bushes waiting to catch prey that pass. Boas catch their prey with their teeth and then constrict it in their coils. The Boa's diet consists of birds, lizards, rats, mice, and rabbits. Large Boas have been known to eat small goats and chickens. When threatened, Boas will hiss loudly. Boas are a non-native species. The first Boas were reported on the island in 1999. Since that time they have been found across the entire island in all types of habitats. ❑

SANTANERO
(Leptodeira bakeri)

BOA
(Boa constrictor)



CASCABEL
(Crotalus unicolor)



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ARUBA TODAY

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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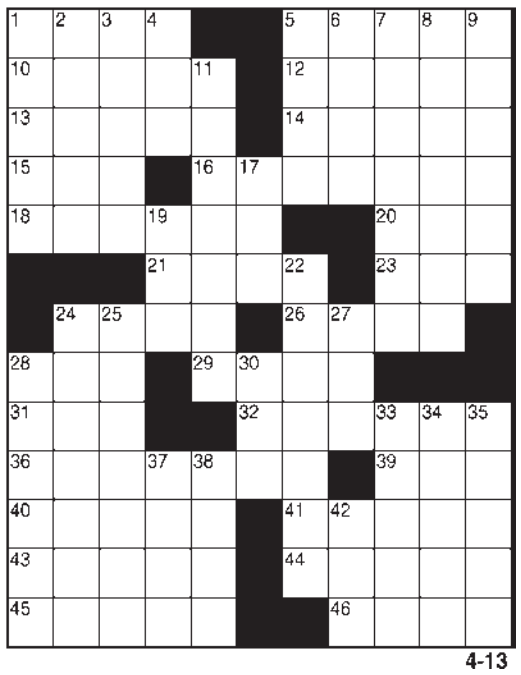
5 Oven feature
10 Hand costs
12 Make amends
13 Bumbling
14 Crazy talks
15 Notice
16 Investigate
18 Run out
20 Horseshoe shape
21 Miles of film
23 Went first
24 Deli spread
26 Club cost
28 Spot to jot
29 Goblet feature
31 "Knives Out" star de Armas
32 Uncover
36 Go boom
39 Caret's key
40 Take, as advice
41 Fad
43 Birth-related
44 Rocker Bob
45 Hard-hearted
46 Mosquito or gnat

DOWN

1 Job reward
2 Add on
3 Pricey
4 Vitality
5 Field protector
6 Tilted type: Abbr.
7 Eyeglass
8 Menu choices
9 Plant anew
11 Sound systems
17 Gen —
19 Wall climber
22 Spot overseers
24 Tailless pet
25 Become comfortable with
27 Game caller
28 Songs of triumph
30 Mogul Turner
33 Missouri tribe
34 Shoe box numbers
35 Put forth
37 Bank offering
38 Just
42 Gym unit



4-13

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-13 CRYPTOQUOTE

O N G Y L Y B H R N M X X W

O H C C Z M E Y G U N Y B R

N M X X W U G G . — M I I Y

T B M I E

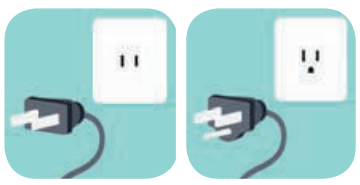
Cryptoquote: ONCE THERE WAS A THING CALLED SPRING WHEN THE WORLD WAS WRITING VERSES LIKE YOURS AND MINE. — ELLA FITZGERALD

Cruise ship Schedule: March 23 - 31 2026

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
MON	23	MARELLA DISCOVERY 2	08.00	20.00	C	1
TUE	24	NORWEGIAN SKY	13.30	22.30	C	1
		OASIS OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	I	1
WED	25	SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	C	1
FRI	27	REGAL PRINCESS	09.00	22.00	C	1
MON	30	EXPLORA II	09.00	18.00	C	1
TUE	31	CARNIVAL HORIZON	08.00	22.00	B	1
		AIDABLU	11.30	22.00	C	1
		NORWEGIAN SKY	13.30	22.30	I	1
		FREEWINDS	09.30	****	E	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

2	9	6	4		5		7	
	5			6	1			8
	4					2		
5	1	4		9			8	
9				1	8	7		4
	3	8		4			1	
1	8	3						
					3	8		6
6	7	9			4	3	2	1

Difficulty: ★ 3/30

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Answer to previous puzzle

3	7	9	6	5	1	8	4	2
5	1	4	2	8	7	9	3	6
8	6	2	9	4	3	7	1	5
4	3	6	7	1	5	2	8	9
2	8	1	4	9	6	3	5	7
9	5	7	8	3	2	1	6	4
6	9	5	3	7	8	4	2	1
7	2	8	1	6	4	5	9	3
1	4	3	5	2	9	6	7	8

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 3/29

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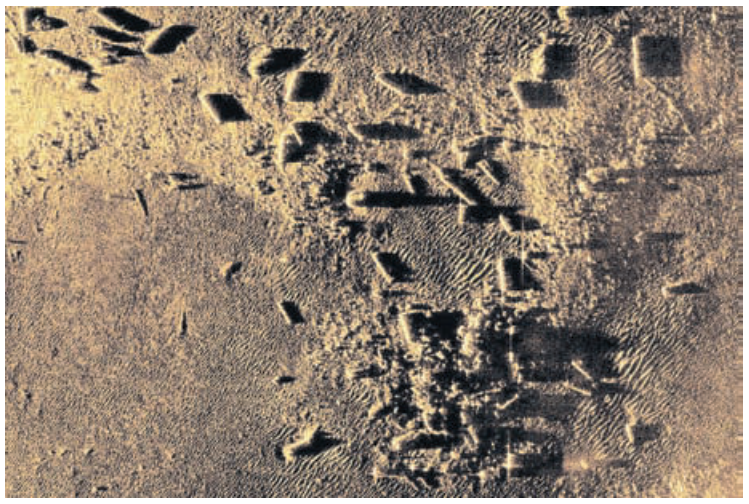
Germany's WWII munitions a toxic legacy on Baltic Sea floor



This undated handout photo released by the Kiel-based GEOMAR oceanographic research centre shows an image of munitions on the seabed

Kiel, Germany

Below the waves off Germany's northern tourist beaches, a toxic time bomb lurks on the Baltic Sea floor -- enormous quantities of World War II munitions that are slowly rusting away.

Scientists warn that as salt water corrodes the metal casings on rockets, artillery shells and bombs, they will release contaminants such as the explosive TNT into the marine environment.

To better map the dangers, a research vessel set sail this month from the port city of Kiel, whose bay is among the most polluted with unexploded ordnance.

A dozen scientists from Germany, Poland and Lithuania, backed by an 11-strong crew, are to spend three weeks on the Alkor, operated by the Kiel-based GEOMAR oceanographic research centre.

The voyage will take them past a sunken torpedo boat, a destroyer, a minesweeper and a submarine, all identified from naval logbooks and other records in the German military archives.

"One of the goals of the project is to develop some new tools for cleaning it up," Aaron Beck, a scientist leading the expedition, told AFP aboard the ship.

Most munitions were hastily dumped there by the victorious Allied powers after Germany's 1945 surrender, to quickly eliminate what remained of the Nazi war machine.

- Traces found in shellfish -

Almost 80 years on, traces of carcinogenic explosives have been detected in shellfish and other sea life throughout the area.

The Baltic is shallow, with only a narrow passage between Sweden and Denmark leading to the open ocean, meaning pollution tends to linger.

A modern-day boom in undersea construction of pipelines, telecom cables and offshore wind farms has cast a new spotlight on the issue.

The scientists on the ship are using an underwater robot to film the seabed, as well as probes to collect sediment and water samples.

They are also dispersing packets of mussels, which they will later retrieve to study the levels of contamination ingested.

Beck, however, reassured that the pollution does not pose an immediate danger to humans.

"For a human being to ingest, at current concentrations, a concerning amount of explosive compounds, they would have to consume seven kilos (15 pounds) of fish a day for more than a year," he said.

Ammunition on the sunken warships is not the only environmental danger.

"On some of these ships, you have 10 tonnes of ammunition, but 200 tonnes of fuel. That's undoubtedly the biggest problem," Beck said.

One wreck still holding fuel is the Franken, a German navy tanker torpedoed by Soviet forces on April 8, 1945. It sank off what is now the Polish city of Gdansk, at the time still the German city of Danzig.

Groundmine with TNT in the foreground on the seafloor of the Baltic Sea

Uwe Wiechert, 70, a former German naval officer and part of the research team, called it a "time bomb".

The Franken also poses a legal conundrum, he said: who will pay to pump this fuel from a German ship, sunk by the Soviets, that now rests in Polish waters?

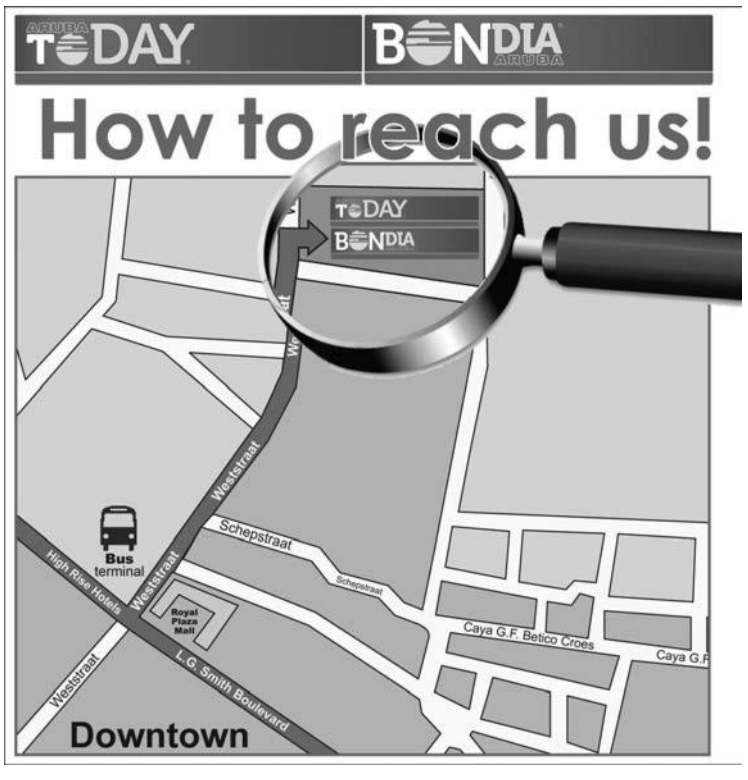
- Slow disposal efforts -

Seafloor munitions dumps are a global problem, with other major sites located along the coasts of the United States, Britain, Japan and Australia and even in Swiss lakes.

Germany has been at the forefront of European efforts to deal with unexploded underwater ordnance, says the European Commission.

Beyond mapping the problem, Germany has taken first steps toward munitions disposal.

In Luebeck Bay, a pilot project to destroy WWII munitions on a specially built floating disposal platform has begun. ❑



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Editor
Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
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Editors
Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo
Oriana Geerman

Sales
Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds
classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection
accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website
Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
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Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

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Aruba Food Bank
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Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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Indonesia begins enforcing social media ban for under-16s

Jakarta, Indonesia
Indonesia began enforcing a social media ban for children under the age of 16 on Saturday, after a minister warned digital platforms there was "no room for compromise."

The Southeast Asian nation announced the ban this month citing threats from online pornography, cyberbullying and internet addiction, as concerns grow globally over the impact of social media on children's wellbeing.

Girls use their smartphones on a street in Jakarta on March 26, 2026

Communications minister Meutya Hafid said at a press conference late Friday that digital platforms X and Bigo Live have fully complied with the new rules and adjusted their minimum user age in line with the regulation.

Other digital platforms operating in the country should "immediately align their products, features and services with applicable regulations," Meutya said.

"We reiterate that there is no room for compromise regarding compliance, and that every business entity operating in Indonesia is required to adhere to the laws in force within the country."
TikTok said in a statement late Friday that it was committed to complying with the regulation including "taking appropriate measures related to under-16 accounts" in close consultation with the ministry.

Indonesia's ban follows a similar policy in Australia implemented in December -- signs that the global reckoning over social media's potential harms to children is gathering steam.

A Los Angeles jury on Wednesday found Meta and YouTube liable for harming a young woman through the "addictive design" of their platforms, ordering the companies to pay $6 million in damages.
Britain's upper house of parliament voted this week in favour of banning children from social media, adding pressure on the government to follow suit.❑

Foreign media association slams Israeli forces' 'violent assault' on CNN crew

People wait for alarm sirens outside a bomb shelter in Tel Aviv on March 29, 2026

Jerusalem
An international media association on Saturday condemned what it described as a "violent assault" by Israeli soldiers who detained a CNN crew in the occupied West Bank this week.

A CNN team was reporting on the aftermath of an assault by Israeli settlers and the establishment of an illegal outpost near the Palestinian village of Tayasir on Thursday when it was detained by Israeli soldiers, the Foreign Press Association said.
"The soldiers aggressively targeted the crew and Palestinian civilians present, pointing their rifles at them," the FPA said, even after the journalists identified themselves.

"The soldiers repeatedly tried to infringe the CNN crew's right to film, ordering the crew to stop filming and threatening to confiscate the camera.

"Later, an IDF soldier approached CNN's photojournalist from behind, placed him in a chokehold, slammed him to the ground, and damaged his camera," said the association, which represents hundreds of journalists in Israel and Palestinian territories.
CNN confirmed the details in its own report on the incident, identifying the photojournalist as Cyril Theophilos.
"This was not a misunderstanding... It was a violent assault on clearly identified journalists and a direct attack on press freedom," the FPA said.
"The use of force was excessive and dangerous. Pointing rifles at journalists and civilians, physically assaulting a cameraman, and detaining a crew are actions that cross every line.
"Such behaviour reflects a deeply alarming pattern of hostility toward the media and cannot be tolerated under any circumstances," the FPA said, demanding an investigation into the incident.
The military said the incident will be probed.
"The soldiers' conduct and statements in this incident do not represent the IDF, go against what is expected of IDF soldiers and will be investigated," military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Nadav Shoshani wrote on X.
"I apologised privately, and I will say it again — this shouldn't have happened. Our job is to maintain law and order, among that is allowing for freedom of the press."

The incident is the second such event involving CNN this month.❑

Congolese rap star Gims arrested in France on money laundering charge

Paris, France
French police have arrested and charged Congolese rap megastar Gims over offences including money laundering in collusion with organised crime, prosecutors said on Friday.
The singer, who often boasts of his life of luxury in his tunes bringing together afrobeats, pop and hip hop, was arrested on Wednesday on arrival at a Paris airport by anti-fraud officers.
Gims, whose hit "Est-ce que tu m'aimes? - Pilule bleue" (Do you love me? - Blue Pill) boasts more than half a billion streams on Spotify, was released under judicial supervision and ordered to pay bail.
The French organised crime prosecutor's office insisted that he benefits from the presumption of innocence.
According to Africa Intelligence, the investigation involves a massive scheme to avoid French taxes, with a massive luxury real estate development promoted by Gims in Marrakesh in the spotlight.
Baptised Sunset Village Private Residences, this ongoing project of 118 ultra-high-end villas, complete with sports grounds, a spa, sauna, and hammam dotted around a 3,000 square metre (32,300 square foot) lagoon, was launched to great fanfare in 2025 in Gims's presence.❑

GIMS performs during the opening ceremony of the 105th Grand Prix d'Amerique harness racing horse race at Vincennes Hippodrome in Paris

Vingegaard clinches Tour of Catalonia victory

The pack rides during the seventh and last stage of the 2026 'Volta a Catalunya'

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Barcelona, Spain

Jonas Vingegaard triumphed at the Tour of Catalonia on Sunday as he continued his strong start to the season, while Brady Gilmore sprinted to a surprise stage seven victory.

Vingegaard topped the general classification one minute 22 secs ahead of France's Lenny Martinez and a further eight seconds before German Florian Lipowitz.

Australian cyclist Gilmore, racing with former Barcelona football great Andres Iniesta's NSN team, edged out Dorian Godon and Remco Evenepoel over the line in a thrilling bunch sprint finale.

Sunday's 95 kilometre final stage took in seven circuits of Montjuic in Barcelona, where the Tour de France will start in July.

Vingegaard, who was the race favourite in his first participation, took control in the Pyrenees with stage five and six solo victories.

The Dane, who also won two stages and the overall title at Paris-Nice earlier this month, is planning a Giro d'Italia and Tour de France double assault later in the year.

"We won two stages and now the GC, it's been a really good week and we're super happy with it, I'm super happy with it," said Vingegaard.

"It's been an amazing start to the year for me and I hope I can keep it going."

Vingegaard has six victories from just two weeks of racing this season.

"I feel very good at the moment, my shape is very good, (but) not the very best yet -- we made a plan this year to progressively get better over the year. I'm pretty sure I still have more in me."

Godon, who won two sprint stages in the race, seemed set to grab a third but Gilmore edged him over the line.

"In the end maybe I was just too confident, there was another rider who came from behind and nabbed it," said Frenchman Godon, who won the points jersey. "Still a good week but disappointing today."

Some expected Vingegaard to try and seal his triumph with a third consecutive stage win but the two-time Tour de France champion said he had been focussed on defending his lead.

"Luckily I was able to defend myself and my GC. From there it was more thinking about the GC rather than trying to win a stage."❑

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Water's Edge's new menu has a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts all on one menu specially made just for you. From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. Flexible and professional service allows you to enjoy your meal in the cool and elegant indoor dining area, on the sandy, breezy beaches of Eagle Beach or by the open bar outside. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, Water's Edge has it all for you, any time of the day.

Start your day off with a hearty breakfast. Water's Edge offers a variety of delicious breakfast items, including their house specialties of Avocado Toast, Chicken & Waffles made with homemade Belgium waffles and topped with a gorgeous hot honey sauce. If you want something on the sweeter side, try their Crème Brûlée French Toast, served with an in-house mascarpone whip cream and topped with fresh fruit and powdered sugar. Or maybe the Traditional American Breakfast is more to your liking, complete with any kind of serving of eggs, bacon, sausage and toast, served with a side of hash browns.

For lunch, keep it easy with their handheld items like their Bacon and Cheddar Burger, Mediterranean Quesadillas or Street Tacos. Want a taste of the Caribbean? Try the Grouper Reuben; A local twist to the traditional Reuben, complete with rye bread, in-house 1000 island dressing, sauerkraut and grilled grouper, served with a side of Cajun Fries.

Dinner plans are set with Water's Edge mouthwatering dinner menu. Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the delectable Coconut Shrimp. You can also opt for their Water's Edge House Wedge Salad or freshly made Shrimp Louie Salad, made with poached shrimp, tossed in Louie dressing, fresh avocados and vine ripe tomatoes. For something a bit heartier, try their classic French Onion Soup, Lobster Bisque or Crab and Corn Chowder.

Follow your appetizers with your choice of Seafood, Chicken or Pasta dishes. Enjoy their succulent Shrimp and Clam Sauce with Angel Hair Pasta, a nice plate of Chicken Francese or explore the Water's Edge Fish Market—your pick of Mahi Mahi, Snapper, Grouper or Salmon, served with homemade mashed potatoes, sauce of choice and fresh herbs and vegetables.

Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of Steak, including a Petite Filet, French Rack of Lambs or their famous 14oz pan-seared Pork finished with a fantastic

apple glaze. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi-glace, mushroom sauce, chimichurri or bacon blue cheese butter. Enjoy it with a side of fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, and four different types of fries. Combine your meal with your personal choice of international and exclusive wines.

Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled Kids Menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests.

End the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness. Choose from a variety of dessert options, including a piece of coconut flan, NY cheesecake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Live entertainment

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Water's Edge prides itself on bringing elegance and comfort to your dining experience, offering personalized service fit for everybody's needs.

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

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